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The Friday Letter

Vol. 10 No. 13

July 7, 1989

Mark Your Calendars for the 20th Anniversary Activities



Here's the schedule for headquarters' 20th Anniversary activities planned to date:

- o Secretary Yeutter will speak to all employees at POC on August 9 at 11 a.m. We're hoping the sun shines because it will be outside on the POC patio! We are working on the logistics of making a videotape for the regions.

- o The FNS annual picnic will be at Cameron Station on August 8 at 4 p.m. The highlight will be a coed softball game with George Braley and Joe Leo coaching the opposing teams, plus lots of food, fun, and surprises.

- o Isabelle Kelley, retired Food Stamp Program director and assistant deputy administrator, will speak on September 7 about the origin of our programs and the founding of the agency. Kelley was a key player in the design and administration of many of our programs throughout the 60's and has a wealth of insight to share.

- o The first FNS dance (can we call it a homecoming or a prom?) will be held on September 23 in the Administration Building patio. There will be good food and music and a chance to see old friends.

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NERO "Voluntarily" Celebrates FNS' 20th Anniversary

Since Our Inception
We've Been An Exception

It's been 20 short years since we were conceived.
And in this short a time who would have believed
All the changes that came, by the efforts we made,
To help many in need which long was delayed.
We all in some way have each done our part,
To bring this about, and it's straight from the heart.
So let's all go on doing more with each year,
With each of us knowing, our purpose is clear!

-Anonymous NERO Employee

NERO has begun preparing for its 20th Anniversary this August. A 20th Anniversary Planning Committee has teamed with the Employees Committee and is actively planning the upcoming events and festivities.

The theme is "People Helping People." NERO's 20th Anniversary activities focus on going outside the agency and helping those in the community who are less fortunate. All FNS employees will have an opportunity to be involved in the



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upcoming months in various volunteer projects, as NERO continues to show its dedication toward helping those in need.

Several FNS employees are already volunteering in various ways. Recently, Joe Mahan (FM) completed the 20-mile Walk for Hunger. Proceeds from the walk, organized by Project Bread, went toward funding more than 200 local agencies responsible for food pantries, kitchens, and shelter feeding programs.

Jim Burton (WIC) organized a group of 12 volunteers from NERO who generously donated their time to participate in working the Special Olympics. They were: Harold Mclean (RA); Charlie DeJulius (PA); Marty Boner (PA); Lynda Silva (FSP); Rolando Amaya (Boston FO); Earl Berry (FM); Sandra Remancus (SNP); Carolyn Canale-Small (SNP); Regonald Sylvain (SNP); Lynn Wonders (WIC); Ivory Woods (WIC); and Carole Ayoub (WIC).

Carolyn Canale-Small (SNP) is involved in a group project with the Main Spring House for the homeless in Brockton. She organizes a small group once a month to prepare and serve homemade hot meals for more than 70 people.

John Ghiorzi (ARA) has been a standing volunteer for the past 5 years at the Nashua Soup Kitchen. Ghiorzi is an "on-call" volunteer. Whenever the shelter needs an extra helping hand, he is available to help serve meals to more than 50 people.

Marcia Haigh (PER) is a volunteer sponsor in the Christian Mission Children's International Organization. She is a foster parent to a needy 6-year-old child named Alan. Her sponsorship provides emergency medicine, clothes, and nourishing food.

Preston Mears (ARA) has been involved as a sponsor and promoter of the Presiding Bishops Episcopal Church Fund for World Hunger by contributing the cost of one family's meals each week.

NERO activities will take place throughout the month of July, "Volunteer Month." One of the events will be

volunteering at the Boston Food Bank. The task will be to sort through shipments of groceries donated by New England supermarkets for distribution to human service agencies serving those in need around the Boston area. A second event will be to assist in serving dinner to the homeless people residing at the Pine Street Inn. Lastly, NERO will sponsor a spaghetti dinner for elderly tenants from the Boston Housing Authority.

Through these efforts, NERO employees are helping those in need throughout the greater Boston area.

-Story by Jacqueline Coleman
Boston Field Office

SERO FM Section Leads Nation in Reports Processing

The Policy and Reports Analysis Unit in SERO along with Information Resources Management staff were recently recognized for achievement in processing 20,000 financial and program reports. SERO led the nation in timely acceptance of these reports by the national database.



Pictured left to right are Sheryl Moffat, Edna Russell, Beth King, Crayton Lankford, Wylene Cooper, Angela Brooks, and Irene Ligon. Not pictured are Sharon Wright, Ed Pendleton, Charlene Grundhoffer, and Myrtle Salmon.

-Story and photo by Steve Watson
SERO Public Affairs Staff

Denver and Fort Collins Team up to Draw New Blood

Personnel staff from the Denver and Fort Collins, CO, areas are sharing ideas, materials, and strategies for recruiting new USDA staff.

The group, representing six USDA agencies in Colorado, met recently at MPRO to determine how they could jointly contribute to the process of attracting new and promising people to the Department. At their first meeting, FNS, the Forest Service, Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service, Agricultural Research Service, Fort Collins Computer Center, and Soil Conservation Service agreed to common recruitment goals. The inaugural meeting, chaired by FNS' Pat Dent, resulted in a proposal to develop a recruitment folder for all participating USDA agencies. Subsequent meetings will focus on coordinating their various activities, strategies, recruiting trips, and future needs.

The group will draw up a list of recruitment needs for the coming year by occupational series and grades. That list will become part of a plan to be used by USDA recruitment teams on visits to job fairs and college campuses.

The recruitment subcommittee was inspired by the Colorado chapter of the Food and Agriculture Committee and will be working closely with that group.



Members of the USDA recruitment subcommittee in Colorado are (left to right): Bill Gray, ASCS; Wilma Vialpando, FS; Pat Dent, FNS; Jan Jones, ARS; Debbie Visser, FNS; and Rod Starkey, NCC-Fort Collins. Standing are Dave Edwards, FS; and Jerry Mai, SCS. Not pictured is Evelyn Stafford, FNS.

-Story and photo by Craig Forman
MPRO Public Affairs Staff

NERO Employee Transfers to Headquarters



Welcome to Alexandria Bob Labbe! A former NEROan, his career began with FNS in October 1974 and broadened as he progressed from a food program specialist to the rank of a supervisor of the State Operations Section.

Labbe joins headquarters as a program analyst with Regional Operations. His responsibility spans five areas--four in management and one in field operations.

-Story by Mary Kennedy
Public Information Staff
Photo by NERO
Public Affairs Staff

SERO Employee has the Right Recipe for Success



SERO's Janet Layne knows the right recipe for success. In fact, the SNP food program assistant knows 161 of them.

That's the number of recipes contained in the new, improved school lunch recipe cards that were sent to the southeastern states last summer. Layne served as coordinator for the project, which distributed nearly 15,000 sets to states eager to receive them.

"I primarily was a liaison between headquarters and the states," Layne said. "We made a survey of the states and got figures for how many recipe cards they needed for all the schools in each state before we placed an order with headquarters."

Recipes were mailed to states direct from the printer, and soon school lunchrooms all over the southeast were serving meals with less salt, sugar, and fat.

The success of the project became more evident this year. Headquarters informed Layne that 2,080 more recipe card sets were available for distribution if the states wanted them. The response was enthusiastic. The sets arrived at SERO in 208 boxes which she rerouted to school districts throughout the southeast.

"Thanks to the combined efforts of the people in Washington and SERO the recipes will arrive in time to be used this coming school year," Layne said.

-Story and photo by Steve Watson
SERO Public Affairs Staff

Nutritionists Share Information at Joint Regional Conference

MPRO nutritionist Esther Eicher recently headed a joint regional conference on the Nutrition Education and Training Program held in Salt Lake City. MWRO nutritionist Dr. Robert Dean also helped organize the program aimed at sharing ideas and strategies for nutrition education. Joe Shepherd (right), Pat Daniels, and Brad Haigh from headquarters each made presentations during the 3-day meeting.

- Photo by Craig Forman
MPRO Public Affairs Staff



20th Anniversary Photo Trivia

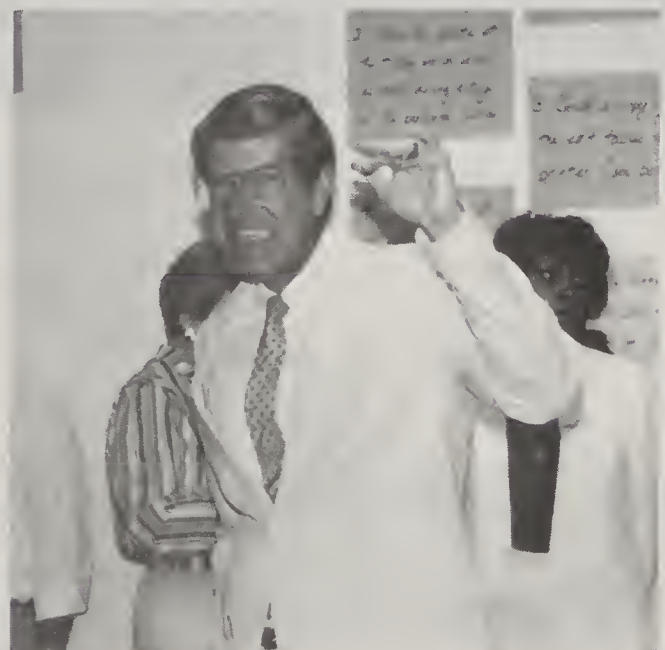


If you can
name these folks,
you have been
around a long time!!



The 1990 FPA budget will be....

A retired Army officer's worst
nightmare--forgetting how to salute.





Say cheese, please!

Food Programs Participation Update

Following are preliminary estimates of participation in the Federal-State food assistance programs for the month of April with comparisons to the previous month and to the same month of last year.

	<u>Apr. 1988</u>	<u>Mar. 1989</u>	<u>Apr. 1989</u> 2/
<u>Food Stamp Program: 1/</u>			
People participating (mil.)	19.1	19.2	19.0
Value of bonus coupons (\$ mil.)	948.3	999.8	984.6
Average bonus per person	\$ 49.75	\$ 52.18	\$ 51.87
Total program cost (\$ mil.)	1,048.8	1,104.2	1,089.0
<u>National School Lunch Program:</u>			
Number of schools participating (thous.)	90.6	91.5	91.5
Children participating (mil.)	24.1	24.2	24.1
Children reached with free or reduced price lunches (mil.)	11.5	11.5	11.4
Percentage of lunches served free	41.2	40.7	40.5
Percentage of lunches served at reduced price.	6.6	6.7	6.7
Total program cost (\$ mil.)	340.6	379.1	368.3
<u>School Breakfast Program:</u>			
Number of schools participating (thous.)	38.8	40.0	40.0
Children participating (mil.)	3.7	3.9	3.8
Percentage of breakfasts served free or at reduced price	87.1	86.7	86.4
Total program cost (\$ mil.)	48.5	53.4	52.3
<u>Child Care Food Program:</u>			
Number of meals served in centers (mil.)	39.7	42.9	40.3
Number of meals served in homes (mil.)	30.4	36.4	33.1
Percentage of all meals served free	78.2	78.7	78.2
Total program cost (\$ mil.)	53.3	62.1	57.8
<u>Special Supplemental Food Program (WIC):</u>			
People participating (mil.)	3.6	4.1	4.2
Food cost (\$ mil.)	123.8	122.9	124.1
Total program cost (\$ mil.)	154.6	153.1	158.1
<u>Commodity Supplemental Food Program: 3/</u>			
People participating (thous.)	215.1	231.1	234.1
Total program cost (\$ mil.)	3.5	4.5	3.9
<u>Food Distribution to Indians and Needy Families:</u>			
Number of projects in operation	107	109	109
People participating (thous.)	133.8	146.0	141.1
Total program cost (\$ mil.)	4.3	5.0	4.8
<u>Temporary Emergency Food Assistance Program:</u>			
Total USDA cost (\$ mil.)	49.1	28.3	28.3

1/ Puerto Rico has been excluded from all months.

2/ Data collected as of June 22, 1989.

3/ Includes data for all elderly participants.

Friday Letter Vacancy Listing by Vacancy Number

JOB TITLE	AREA OF CONSID.	SERIES	GRADE	CLOSING DATE	VACANCY NUMBER	OFFICE LOCATION
o Prog. Eval. Staff	(FNS-N)	GM-0345	15	07/17/89	89-128	OAE
o Comp. Prog. Analyst	(FNS-N)	GS-334	13	07/17/89	89-129	IRMD
o Personnel Officer	(G)	GS-0201	12	07/24/89	89-130	NERO
o Food Program Spec.	(A)	GS-0120	9/11	07/24/89	89-132	CND
o Secretary Typing	(FNS-HQ)	GS-0318	4/5	07/12/89	89-133	PAD
o Food Program Spec.	(FNS-HQ)	GS-0120	12	07/17/89	89-135	NTSD
o Personnel Mgmt. Spec.	(FNS-N)	GM-0201	13	07/24/89	89-136	PED
o Management Analyst	(FNS-HQ)	GS-0343	12	07/20/89	89-137	CND
o Visual Info. Spec.	(HNIS)	GS-1084	12	07/24/89	89-H-138	HNIS
o Secretary Typing	(G)	GS-0318	5/6	07/31/89	89-139	ORO
o Food Program Spec.	(G)	GS-0120	9/11	07/31/89	89-140	PAD
o Food Program Spec.	(A)	GS-0120	9/11	07/31/89	89-140*	PAD

Office Location

HNIS - Human Nutrition Information Service
 PAD - Program Accountability Div.
 IRMD - Information Resources Mgmt. Div.
 CND - Child Nutrition Division
 NERO - Northeast Regional Office
 ORO - Office of Regional Operations
 PED - Personnel Division
 OAE - Office of Analysis and Evaluation
 NTSD - Nutrition and Technical Service Div.

Area of Consideration

(A) - All Sources
 (G) - Governmentwide
 (FNS-N) - Food and Nutrition Service (Nationwide)
 (FNS-HQ) - Food and Nutrition Service (Headquarters)
 (HNIS) - Human Nutrition Information Service

(Anniversary Activities Continued)

o The FNS memorabilia display will be scheduled again for those who did not get a chance to see it earlier. Watch for upcoming dates.

o The photo trivia will continue in "The Friday Letter," those snapshots from our past that we all hope will be of someone else! If you've found your old pictures, please, please give them to Phyllis Weaver.

There are lots of opportunities to help with these events so watch for postings around the building for more details. And, don't forget to buy your FNS T-shirt! Orders can be placed through July 12.

-Story by Alberta Frost
 Chairperson, FNS 20th Anniversary
 Committee